

I WANT YOU



DO IT YOURSELF

This is how we can survive this

On the week of February 24th I watched in horror as the legislature fast tracked taking away civil rights for trans people that had been in place since 2007. Their end goal? To erase us from public life, take away our healthcare, and to criminalize our existence in public. As I sat in the gallery watching the debate on the measure that I observed that instead of listening to their colleagues they were shopping for parts online. Iowa Starting Live published an article about the discovery that Republicans were playing hidego in the chambers while the Democrats made arguments to save our civil rights. We are not human to them. No one is listening. Writing to your legislators isn't working. Speaking in the subcommittee hearings isn't working. Non-disruptive protest isn't working. No one is coming to one us. We have to start looking at the ways trans life persisted prior to 2007 if we want to get through this. One of the ways we persisted was through self-managed healthcare.

For one of the few ICMA members that is old enough to remember trans life be-

fore 2007, I came out as trans for the first time in 2008, though I was forced back into the closet for my safety until after college. In the 2000's most trans care wasn't within the hospital system. It was given by providers who had independent clinics established across the United States. Some states, including Iowa, had only a handful of providers prescribing HRT to all the trans people who sought care within their borders. This was the best we could do for transition access at the time because most hospitals were not interested in serving our community until the mid-2010's. Independent providers had the freedom to treat as many trans people as they pleased without institutional scrutiny. However, it created a dark side where there were no checks and balances against them because they usually covered their own clinics. Providers could get away with treating patients however they wanted and withholding HRT if the patients didn't comply for some of my trans friends in the 1980s and 2010's that meant enduring second surgery and sometimes trans doctors just to get their medication. I recall sitting with a

trans woman in a doctor's office as he asked "how is your transition going? I see you have a nice rack!" and I realized that my presence was the only thing protecting him from escalating further. As awful as this was, I carry flashes of such trans-violent stories about trans medical experiences that I won't report in this publication. As we enter an era in which our care is being scrutinized to outright banned, I believe we will see a return to private clinics holding all the power. Republicans in Iowa already have their eyes on re-introducing the ban on Medical necessity for gender affirming care, and I don't think they'll stop there. Hospitals across the US are capitalizing on the Trump administration's nationwide ban on gender affirming care for minors. In the meantime there was one thing that saved me from trans violence: I learned to self-manage. Self-managed medical care is a gateway to a life free from medical violence.

DIY, word on back

CAPITALISM KILLS

The subversive punishments of the carceral cash-cow

In last month's edition of ICMA Monthly I wrote about a heart-breaking tale of a young trans man who departed from this world as a result of the failure of a government agency to act during a time of emergent need for life-saving medical care. Though, as anything in life, this article held a double-edged sword with its inspirational tale of perseverance by an oppressed population that refused to allow this lowering grief to consume them.

History has shown us that the oppressed classes will always rise to the occasion when it becomes too much. Karl Marx brings attention to this age old struggle when he proclaims in his Manifesto:

"The bourgeoisie of the proletarian into a class and consequently into a political party is continually being split up by the competition between the worker themselves. (Hence), it was able to fight stronger, better, more united, although it was torn from the class... it was torn... during the proletarian (Thatcher), the bourgeoisie finds itself divided in a constant battle."

The question begs to be asked: When is it too much? The answer is simply always! However, it becomes more apparent than when the oppressor class turns upon itself. When those who are shown the lowest will aren't the unopposed enforcer of the imperial class, they too fail. Marx speaks on this as well when he states:

"The lower strata of the middle class - the small trade-people, shopkeepers, and retired bourgeoisie generally, the handicraftsmen and peasants - all these are gradually being proletarianized by the bourgeoisie. Their own capital does not suffice for the scale on which modern industry is carried on, and is absorbed in the competition with the large capitalist, partly because their personal skill is rendered worthless by new methods of production. Thus the proletarian is separated from all classes of the population."

I have since more acquired doubts of concern from reliable sources that further demonstrate this egregious level of disregard for the sanctity of life and safety in exchange for capitalist riches. Admittedly, this is the case with some governmental

and localities as better only now the ripple have started under shores that previously concerned; they have subjected their own member of its hierarchy to this heartless violation and deplorable treatment.

Like most all workers' based transgressive functions, wherein corporations or governments, the goal is "efficiency and profit" above all else. To reduce it to one word: Capital. This goal subconsciously serves even at the cost of life and assured security. It may seem inconsequential as the grand scale and, given the gradual means by which employed, almost imperceptible - the reduction in resources in the effort to secure these financial margins has become dangerously disproportionate to their need! This governmental agency's hard administration has decreased access to necessary and civil products and resources for those they are responsible for protecting and housing within their institutional parameters. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. **Cleaning chemicals/sanitization supplies** In another vain effort to decrease costs, the directive given was to aggressively reduce the volume of cleaning and sanitization agents used even in the most necessary of locales. Specifically, these cleaners were completely removed from housing areas and shower facilities; sanitizer supplies reduced to inadequate diluted strengths and allowable amounts in comparison to labeled directions and population need; cleaning chemicals restricted in food preparation locations (kitchens); and the permitted style of products restricted to only one ineffective brand which is not properly utilized as no one is sufficiently trained in its application or required to use it as designed. To be precise, the label of this product overtly instructs the following for proper use: "The Disinfectant Disinfectant 1.5 ounce/3 gallon of water 1479 ppm. Soak in room for 20 minutes then rinse." This is not only never how this product is used, there is even signage that has been posted by this governmental agency's staff that states: "Disinfectant will no longer be used for individual use. Cleaning chemicals go to top and top up."

2. **Medical** The quality of products, manner of treatment, and quality provided are significantly subpar and unduly. Though it is commonplace for such institutions to purchase items from "secondary food markets", it is not commonplace to witness rotten food and those infested with insects being served! Additionally, the general composition of these meals consist of an overabundance of simple sugars, preservatives, carbohydrates, and other fillers that hold little nutritional value. Rather, they are designed to ward off hunger rather than provide sustenance. Lastly, the portion sizes have decreased to a level that every relying on "filler" stress leaves individuals without satisfaction, giving way to either: 1) those capable feeding the capitalist cash-cow by purchasing items, or 2) those unable to afford these necessities resorting to theft to fill their basic human need. This is for the overall welfare, and does not account for those impacted even more by dietary restrictions. Seriously, adding insulin to inject the food source and misappropriation of pre-packaged foods is astronomical in the amount that is disposed of or outright stolen, as opposed to being served to those whom it is intended for. In further aggravation, what little fresh produce that is made available is oftentimes plundered by administration or other members of the employed body and taken for their own personal wants at their whim and desire instead of being provided to students who are otherwise without.

3. **Denial of personal protective equipment** During the height of the global COVID-19 pandemic at the instance of simple masks and use of gloves became common. The den-

MARX, word on back

Poetry

BACKWARDS

BY ZEPHYRUS (P.O.)

And is that
Black is white
The sun is the moon
The world isn't right.

First to know
Open doors
They means go
To smile is to frown.

Right is wrong
What is why
How is cold
You're happy but you cry.

This world is backwards
And we can't figure out why
Because we're backwards
Until we begin to try.

To truly love my neighbors
To not offend before ourselves
And to stop the wars
and hatred
So the future of hatred
will melt.

Only then can he
Understand his land
In his world for once right
and fair
And will be real
And blue will be blue again.

MARX, cont'd

the will remains a practice of "enslaving people to other nations or prevent manifestation of social classes. This is never more applicable than with a population as clearly lumped and unable to avoid contact by separating themselves due to indifference. Nevertheless, the denial of needs and use of proper graded plans (to include sharing clothing and food stores) has taken place to prevent profitable trading. Making money worse, a taxation was placed on the amount of

sales more permissible for sales, making the road to impoverishment of individual of impoverishment. Those in these deliberations were concerned as being denied basic human needs for the most part for granted in daily life.

4. Alcohol-free hand sanitizer: As a product manufactured and created by an adjacent fellow signer under the same congressional umbrella, this has been entirely removed from the market. Populations are over under the notion that it costs too much - though after locating belonging to the agency side from this particular one will provide it without disruption. Once supplied freely at traffic every morning, it is now absent from its essential area (i.e. kitchen, health department, your apartment, etc.). Consequently, the capitalist system has been discontinued for personal purposes as well from their own supply operation to the bonded population. This has led to the location and performance of "disappearing" in their field is unavailability also spurs with one another. As such, the need for health care would naturally rise due to a lack of preventative measures.

If not for the fact such services are denied or delayed at great efforts resulting in either inaccessibility or fertility. This is outlined in the following:

All of these industries are now and attempt to believe the bottom line of financial transactions made in our general conclusion as to increase in health concerns and illness, some chronic. However, these workers are likewise ignored or delayed by the agency if one is terminally pregnant and delivers a baby, they are

then charged a copay for such essential services even though they are rendered copies of the State (though dental care seems unavailable in almost all instances). The few conditions of this situation has led to either those in need not seeking medical services (i.e. they must choose between health care, insurance, maintaining loved ones, etc.) or worse.

Most recently, the citizens witnessed a collapse of the human services agency by closed services and therefore sent away unwell and in pain. If the respective class is unwilling to take care of their own with such deliberation, how are they trustworthy in taking care of the far too others who fully ignored and forgotten lower class?

We usually see this level of behavior when in our medical communities regarding our insurance and cost of care at their efforts to be providers in the area of essential services. However, more consistently checking is the work ethic that this is happening in a daily basis in government agencies responsible for housing individuals against their will that have no other means of addressing to their illness and medical needs. This disregard reality is taking in our backyards ignored and allowed to persist with impunity.

Over the last five years the agency's single specific location of focus has revealed the disease of not less than two human beings. That an average of nearly one death every six months. This is a disproportionately high number in a short period of time given the size of the population (1000), especially considering such one has been considered to be of "exceptional" yet still "not

well" status. Many of these appear to have been either personality, or at the least debilitated with proper attention care. These conditions include cardiac, respiratory, endocrinological, diagnosed as "age", appendicitis, gastroenteritis, and other complications that produced a permanent signature of a valuable life.

What is taking place here? What is at work that has placed vulnerable individuals in the custody of an unaccountable, apathetic, incompetent? Capitalism. Good has been more supported the humanity within society than its inherently evil, selfish and compassionate. To what end? Money before humanity? Capitalism needs health care? Capitalism needs medical care?

Remember, the solution to this problem is available in academic journals and Web sites, where the words of kindness and generosity as that we may spend half a third eye to the scenario faced in the oppressed where we ourselves are still in. For we know well are they be subjected to the same if no changes come to fruition. We must live our greatest lives that are discarded by the greed of nations, and move in transitioning our world toward a more healthy and more welcoming existence in all aspects. We must open ourselves, reach with patience those considered in progressing without consideration for the humanity of our interconnected human experience.

Let us look you with this revolutionary claim from Karl Marx: "Let us realize that the world is the Communist revolution. The problem and the solution is for the world to see. There is a world to see, living and of all our lives!"

-MARCUS MARX



AUTONOMY IOWA CITY

Supporting bodily autonomy,
right here in Iowa.

Assistance getting abortion pills for a
self-managed abortion or miscarriage

Assistance with out of state travel for
abortion related medical care

Support and education for people
choosing self-managed abortion

autonomyiowacity.org

DIX, cont'd

and state opposition for more than the transgender community. People choosing unattended home birth or "free birth" often do so because they fear obstetric violence, which occurs frequently at hospital birth settings. In Jan. 2002, people chose self-managed abortion to avoid unnecessary tests, insurance of privacy, and unconsented surgical sterility. People who choose to have everything from routine STI checks to evaluating their cholesterol, all because the medical system is designed to make away the power from patients and perpetuate violence. Self-managed care isn't care or unique to the vast community.

It's also not as dangerous as it sounds at first to some Americans. In some countries most medicines are over the counter, easily manufactured, and cheap. Self-managed healthcare is the default method of care in many parts of the world. The medicine that medicine from these countries is made in while supremacist ideology just because it came from a country that's mostly inhabited by lower people doesn't make the medicine unsafe. The people who live there and take the medicine are fine, why wouldn't you be?

The same goes for the transworkers who source their chemicals from unregulated manufacturers. Don't believe that medicine can be safely manufactured at home? Look up the four Worst Things You Can Buy: Round Robin Not Round. Almost chemicals are over there and they're using people's lives. Maybe you could become one.

The pathway is preserving their care must take as many approaches as possible to create abundance and power over for the poorest people who can't afford out-of-pocket care. It's not just about searching chemistry of foreign medicines. If you have money, perhaps the introduction of wealth means with you. Ensuring care for your trans friends can mean making your poor friend money in Vienna for "gender." Maybe you're a 100 million who walks into the doctor and knows all the symptoms of low testosterone, and how to say three consistently enough to get a prescription filled, which you know to be green with. Maybe it means giving to a mental and find the doctor's discrimination about where an individual goes their healthcare from. Or maybe it means you start your own project to help your friends. Survival is going to be a group effort, but it can't just be trans people looking out for other trans people. We need all people working with us too.

Do you intend to succeed? Do you want your trans loved ones to live? Do you want to keep our access to transition care? The future will require your willingness to do something dangerous no matter what path you choose. Maybe that path is searching chemistry, maybe it's going into a bathroom restrooms banned from because of the sex marker on your birth certificate. You're already in for a price, you might as well be in for a pound. We can survive this, but we have to go to work, look in, and organize. You need to learn the skills that will be necessary to help your community survive.

-A KID IN A UNIFORM



ES SURVEILLANCE

The NSA uses illegal tactics of surveillance to silence dissent.



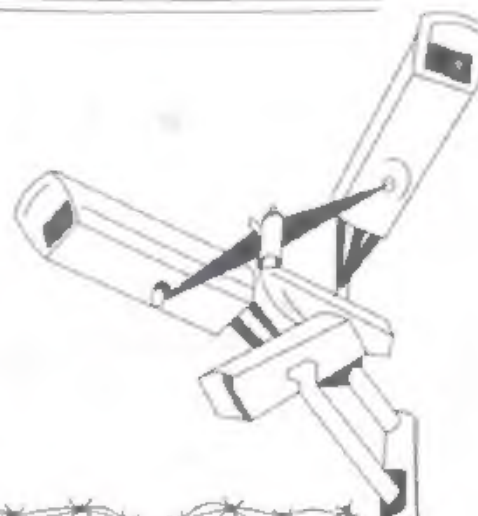
People often joke about the FBI agent that is in our phones, listening and watching us. Although the FBI uses tactics of surveillance, the government agency in charge of surveilling is the NSA. The National Security Agency is the largest and most secretive intelligence agency in the United States. Although the NSA was established in 1952 its existence was highly classified until 1975.

The NSA uses computers to surveil us. Their surveillance tactics claim to be used to assess for foreign threats and terrorism, yet they often use resources to surveil US activists, journalists, and civil rights leaders who are legally voicing dissent. Under their program, PRISM, the NSA asked telecommunications companies to turn over customer data. Under FISA, a court of seven judges, the FISA court, was created to review government requests for warrants to authorize electronic surveillance. The NSA has an elite group of hackers who have access to a catalog of hardware and software hacks. MONKEYCALENDAR, which transmits a mobile phone's location via hidden text message. PICASSO, which collects mobile phone

location data and eavesdrops. XKEYSCORE, which collects and analyzes real time internet data. Those are only a few examples of ways that the NSA hacks in order to surveil.

The FBI is not innocent though. They also have used surveillance to imprison, murder, and destroy activists, journalists, and civil rights leaders. Beginning in 1956, the FBI started operating an illegal espionage program to 'expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize' American organizations that it deemed subversive, usually leftist groups. Although this program's illegal activities were uncovered, the FBI continues its surveillance of organizations. Targets of that surveillance include, Occupy Wall Street, Standing Rock Water Protectors, Abolish ICE, Free Palestine, and Black Lives Matter. Both Viola Liuzzo and Hale Boggs were murdered by the FBI. Liuzzo was killed by an FBI informant who was also in the KKK. Boggs was a House member who was very critical of the FBI, his plane vanished over Alaska and he was never seen again. The FBI not only seeks to assassinate people exercising legal dissent, they also will murder those in office who simply disagree with how the FBI is run.

Did you know that the NSA isn't allowed to surveil US citizens domestically? Yet they continue to do so. The NSA has described their own surveillance program as "disreputable if not outright illegal." Not only are federal government agencies surveilling us, but local agencies continue to surveil us as well. Most notably, the police.



CITIZEN SURVEILLANTS

In 2019, ICPD became one of hundreds of law enforcement agencies to partner with Ring, Amazon's doorbell-camera company. Through the Neighbors app, officers can send a request for video footage to potential users in a specific area, but they can't tell who has cameras or where those cameras are. ICPD also has a Camera Registry program, with the goal of mapping private surveillance systems across the city for collaboration with law enforcement. Residents and business owners who utilize security cameras are encouraged to register so that ICPD can add the location of their cameras to the registry and contact them for video footage in the course of criminal investigation. ICPD can access video footage from private security cameras with permission of the owner or a court order.

BIG UNIVERSITY IS WATCHING YOU

Iowa City weakened its long-standing privacy ordinance, but one law enforcement agency has always been exempt from following it.

In January of 2024, for a price tag of \$114,469, three Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPRs) were installed in the Chauncy Swan, Harrison Street, and Capitol Street parking ramps. The cameras were deactivated from the time of their installation until August when the city created a loophole in a 2013 city ordinance meant to protect residents' privacy.

The original ordinance banned these cameras from being used to identify a vehicle, its operator, occupants or owner, but has since been amended so that the new cameras can be used for parking enforcement.

City Manager Geoff Fruin said "We should have, at the time of purchase, updated this ordinance," but instead the city waited until the cameras had

already been purchased and installed. This backwards order of operations seems like a way to put council between a rock and a hard place: having already spent the money, it's easy to justify updating the ordinance, despite residents' concerns about surveillance.

The original ordinance was vague about whether or not police could pull footage from the cameras, but the new amendment makes it clear, police CAN pull footage for criminal investigation, and in fact have been for the past decade, as admitted by Fruin.

Because of the 2013 ordinance, the City of Iowa City doesn't use ALPRs outside of these three parking garages. The University of Iowa Police Department, however, has 28 ALPRs installed

around Iowa City. UIPD says the cameras are used to investigate and prevent crimes, not to enforce traffic violations, but it must be noted the UIPD is exempt from the city ordinance and is under no obligation to follow it.

UIPD's jurisdiction covers "campus and property adjacent to campus," which includes a significant portion of Iowa City. The Pentacrest borders downtown and there are University buildings nestled in the heart of it. Soon the University's reach into the busiest part of our city will include the entirety of the Old Capitol Town Center, which the University is set to take full ownership of. In October 2027, With education and healthcare campuses also in Coralville, Des

Moines, Cedar Rapids, and elsewhere, the scope of the University and thus the jurisdiction of their Police Department extends across the state.

ALPRs aren't the only cameras utilized by UIPD. Testimony from UIPD Detective Ian Mallory in a March 2024 trial detailed UIPD's use of Pan Tilt Zoom (PTZ) cameras on and around campus. UIPD does not provide any information on their website about the number of PTZ cameras in use. The Video Surveillance Policy can be found in Section V, Chapter 45 of the University of Iowa Policy Manual.

If you are a resident of Iowa City (or any other place with a UI campus) — even if you have no other connection to the University — you are subject to surveillance by UIPD.

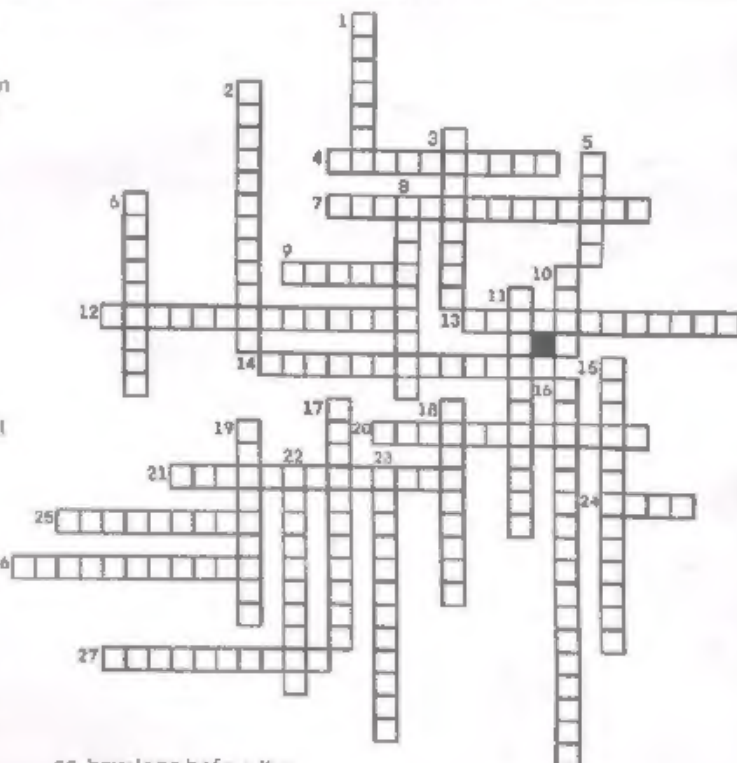
- IOWA INTERVIEW

1. collects mobile phone location data and eavesdrops
2. something the FBI and NSA do
3. edited in order to obscure or remove information
5. NSA program that allowed telecommunication companies to turn over customer data
6. group of seven judges picked by the Chief Justice who review government requests for warrants to authorize electronic surveillance for foreign agents or American citizens suspected of involvement in espionage
8. something that the FBI and CIA and NSA claim to protect us from
10. group of lawyers that has struggled to rein in the illegal surveillance by the government
11. carry out a systematic or formal inquiry to discover and examine the facts
15. the practice of protecting systems devices and data from cyber attacks
16. this group was surveilled under the COINTELPRO program
17. secretly monitoring and recording a person's communications

18. house leader who was very critical of the FBI and J. Edgar Hoover who later disappeared in a mysterious plane vanishing in Alaska
19. collects and analyzes real time internet data
22. this group was surveilled under the COINTELPRO program
23. director of the NSA

ACROSS

4. FBI surveillance and neutralization program of lawful political dissent
7. a key reason for the COINTELPRO program
9. something the FBI and the CIA commit
12. transmits a mobile phone's location via hidden text message
13. president who signed the Executive Order 12,333
14. in 2013 this whistleblower leaked NSA documents
20. what the FBI did to MLK
21. this group was surveilled under the COINTELPRO program
24. profoundly immoral and wicked



25. how long before the parkland shooting that the FBI received a tip
26. this person was murdered by a member of the KKK who was also an FBI informant

27. act that allowed the government to collect a record of every single phone call made by every single American 'on an ongoing daily basis'